

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2006

HOUSE BILL 2613

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 8-521, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION;
RELATING TO YOUTH ASSISTANCE AND EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:
2 Section 1. Section 8-521, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 8-521. Independent living program; conditions; eligibility;
5 rules; case management units; reports

6 A. The department or a licensed child welfare agency may establish an
7 independent living program for youths who are the subject of a dependency
8 petition or who are adjudicated dependent and are all of the following:

9 1. In the custody of the department, a licensed child welfare agency
10 or a tribal child welfare agency.

11 2. At least seventeen years of age.

12 3. Employed or full-time students.

13 B. The independent living program may consist of a residential program
14 of less than twenty-four hours' a day supervision for youths under the
15 supervision of the department through a licensed child welfare agency or a
16 foster home under contract with the department. Under the independent living
17 program the youth is not required to reside at a licensed child welfare
18 agency or foster home.

19 C. The director or the director's designee shall review and approve
20 any recommendation to the court that a youth in the custody of the department
21 be ordered to an independent living program.

22 D. For a youth to participate in an independent living program, the
23 court must order such a disposition pursuant to section 8-845.

24 E. The department, a licensed child welfare agency or a tribal child
25 welfare agency having custody of the youth shall provide the cost of care as
26 required by section 46-134 for each child placed in an independent living
27 program pursuant to this section, except that the monthly amount provided
28 shall not exceed the average monthly cost of purchased services for the child
29 in the three months immediately preceding placement in an independent living
30 program.

31 F. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to title 41, chapter 6 to
32 carry out ~~the purposes of~~ this section.

33 G. The department shall provide quarterly progress reports to the
34 court and to local foster care review boards for each youth participating in
35 the independent living program.

36 H. The local foster care review boards shall review at least once
37 every six months the case of each youth participating in the independent
38 living program.

39 I. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AN EDUCATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT UNIT
40 WITHIN THE DIVISION CONSISTING OF TWO CASE MANAGERS TO DEVELOP AND COORDINATE
41 EDUCATIONAL CASE MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR YOUTHS PARTICIPATING IN THE INDEPENDENT
42 LIVING PROGRAM AND TO ASSIST YOUTHS IN THE PROGRAM TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

43 1. GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.

44 2. PASS THE ARIZONA INSTRUMENT TO MEASURE STANDARDS TEST.

45 3. APPLY FOR POSTSECONDARY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

1 4. APPLY FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION.

2 J. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE A REPORT ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1 OF EACH
3 YEAR THAT CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR THE PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR:

4 1. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM.
5 2. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM BY AGE AND GRADE.
6 3. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE.
7 4. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM WHO GRADUATED FROM HIGH
8 SCHOOL.

9 5. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM WHO RECEIVED A GENERAL
10 EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA.

11 6. THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN THE PROGRAM ENROLLED IN POSTSECONDARY
12 EDUCATION.

13 K. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT A COPY OF THE REPORT PRESCRIBED IN
14 SUBSECTION J OF THIS SECTION TO THE GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE,
15 THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE
16 DIRECTOR OF THE ARIZONA STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS.

17 Sec. 2. Appropriation; education and training vouchers program;
18 exemption

19 A. The sum of \$500,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in
20 fiscal year 2006-2007 to the department of economic security for its
21 education and training vouchers program for postsecondary education.

22 B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt
23 from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to
24 lapsing of appropriations.